

*Jot down a few thoughts... use the back too! Consider sharing something with someone near you.*

Think of a story in your life that involves an animal. Do you have a funny story? A scary story? A sweet story? What kinds of animals do you like? What kinds do you prefer to stay far away from?

You're probably familiar with the phrase "born to do," as in, "he/she was born to do that." Do you know anyone in your life, a friend or acquaintance or family member, who was "born to do" something? What about you... is there anything that you feel like you were "born to do"? Or to be?

There are stories in the Bible, that you're probably familiar with at least by reputation, of divine power and might... stories of healing and destruction, miracles and signs, physical manipulation and spiritual transformation. Do you think that there is divine power at work in the world today? In your life? If so, what does that "divine power" look like? If not, what is the difference between the stories and the reality of the world as you see it?

*"One day, the psalmist looked up and noticed the vastness of the cosmic order. He noticed the infinite expanse of the solar system; he noticed the beautiful stars; he gazed at the moon with all its scintillating beauty, and he said in the midst of all of this, what is man? He comes forth with an answer..."*

- Martin Luther King, Jr. in "The Measure of a Man"

*O LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!  
Your glory is higher than the heavens.  
When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers—  
the moon and the stars you set in place—  
what are mere mortals that you should think about them,  
human beings that you should care for them?  
Yet you made them only a little lower than God  
and crowned them with glory and honor.  
You gave them charge of everything you made...*

- Psalm 8, v. 1, 3-6 (New Living Translation)

*To read:*

Everything Must Change by Brian McLaren. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) [www.brianmclaren.net](http://www.brianmclaren.net)

The Measure of a Man: <http://www.amazon.com/Measure-Facets-Martin-Luther-King/dp/0800634497>

*To think about:*

How can I tell people that they're worth more than 98 cents/15 bucks?

*To do:*

Wait for a clear cold night this week, find a spot... and check out the stars.